

1
2
3 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

4
5 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

6 GABRIEL CHAVEZ,

7 Plaintiff, No. C 16-2546 WHA (PR)

8 VS. **ORDER OF SERVICE**

9 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
10 CORRECTIONS AND
11 REHABILITATION; DR.
12 HOSOHAM; J. GONNELLA; HELEN
THORNTON,

13 Defendants. _____ /

14 **INTRODUCTION**

15 Plaintiff, a California at Salinas Valley State Prison (“SVSP”), filed this civil rights case
16 under 42 U.S.C. 1983 against SVSP officials. He is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis
17 in a separate order. For the reasons discussed below, the complaint is ordered served upon
18 three of the defendants.

19 **ANALYSIS**

20 **A. STANDARD OF REVIEW**

21 Federal courts must engage in a preliminary screening of cases in which prisoners seek
22 redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C.
23 1915A(a). In its review the court must identify any cognizable claims, and dismiss any claims
24 which are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or seek
25 monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. *Id.* at 1915A(b)(1),(2). Pro
26 se pleadings must be liberally construed. *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't*, 901 F.2d 696, 699
27 (9th Cir. 1990).

1 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a)(2) requires only "a short and plain statement of the
2 claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." "Specific facts are not necessary; the
3 statement need only ""give the defendant fair notice of what the claim is and the grounds
4 upon which it rests."'" *Erickson v. Pardus*, 127 S. Ct. 2197, 2200 (2007) (citations omitted).
5 Although in order to state a claim a complaint "does not need detailed factual allegations, . . . a
6 plaintiff's obligation to provide the 'grounds of his 'entitle[ment] to relief' requires more than
7 labels and conclusions, and a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not
8 do. . . . Factual allegations must be enough to raise a right to relief above the speculative
9 level." *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 127 S. Ct. 1955, 1964-65 (2007) (citations omitted). A
10 complaint must proffer "enough facts to state a claim for relief that is plausible on its face." *Id.*
11 at 1974.

12 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. 1983, a plaintiff must allege two essential elements:
13 (1) that a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States was violated, and (2)
14 that the alleged deprivation was committed by a person acting under the color of state law.
15 *West v. Atkins*, 487 U.S. 42, 48 (1988).

16 **B. LEGAL CLAIMS**

17 When liberally construed, plaintiff's allegations that state cognizable claims for relief
18 against defendants Dr. Hosoham, Nurse J. Gonnella, and Nurse Helen Thornton for being
19 deliberately indifferent to his serious medical needs in violation of his Eighth Amendment
20 rights.

21 Plaintiff's claim against the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
22 ("CDCR") is barred by the Eleventh Amendment. The Eleventh Amendment bars from the
23 federal courts suits against a state by its own citizens, citizens of another state or citizens or
24 subjects of any foreign state. *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 237-38 (1985).
25 Eleventh Amendment immunity also extends to suits against a state agency, such as the CDCR.
26 *Brown v. Cal. Dep't of Corrs.*, 554 F.3d 747, 752 (9th Cir. 2009) (California Department of
27 Corrections entitled to immunity). Such immunity also covers state law claims brought against
28 a state in federal court under the supplemental jurisdiction statute, 28 U.S.C. 1337, such as the

1 claims asserted here against the CDCR. *Raygor v. Regents of the University of Minnesota*, 534
2 U.S. 533, 541-42 (2002). Accordingly, the claims against the CDCR will be dismissed.

3 CONCLUSION

4 For the reasons set out above, it is hereby ordered as follows:

- 5 1. The claims against defendant CDCR are **Dismissed**.
- 6 2. The clerk shall issue summons and the United States Marshal shall serve, without
7 prepayment of fees, a copy of the complaint with all attachments thereto, and a copy of this
8 order upon defendants **Dr. Hosoham, Nurse J. Gonnella, and Nurse Helen Thornton** at
9 **Salinas Valley State Prison**. A courtesy copy of the complaint with attachments and this order
10 shall also be mailed to the California Attorney General's Office.
- 11 3. Defendants **shall** file an answer in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil
12 Procedure.
- 13 4. In order to expedite the resolution of this case:
 - 14 a. No later than **91 days** from the date this order is filed, defendants shall file a
15 motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion. If defendants are of the opinion that
16 this case cannot be resolved by summary judgment, he shall so inform the court prior to the date
17 the summary judgment motion is due. All papers filed with the court shall be promptly served
18 on the plaintiff.
 - 19 b. Plaintiff's opposition to the dispositive motion, if any, shall be filed with the
20 court and served upon defendant no later than **28 days** from the date of service of the motion.
21 Plaintiff must read the attached page headed "NOTICE -- WARNING," which is provided to
22 him pursuant to *Rand v. Rowland*, 154 F.3d 952, 953-954 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc), and
23 *Klingele v. Eikenberry*, 849 F.2d 409, 411-12 (9th Cir. 1988).
 - 24 c. Defendants **shall** file a reply brief no later than **14 days** after the date of
25 service of the opposition.
 - 26 d. The motion shall be deemed submitted as of the date the reply brief is due.
27 No hearing will be held on the motion unless the court so orders at a later date.
 - 28 e. Along with his motion, defendants shall file proof that they served plaintiff

United States District Court

For the Northern District of California

1 the *Rand* warning at the same time they served him with their motion. Failure to do so will
2 result in the summary dismissal of their motion.

3 5. All communications by the plaintiff with the court must be served on defendant, or
4 defendant's counsel once counsel has been designated, by mailing a true copy of the document
5 to defendant or defendant's counsel.

6 6. Discovery may be taken in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

7 No further court order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(a)(2) or Local Rule 16-1 is
8 required before the parties may conduct discovery.

9 7. It is the plaintiff's responsibility to prosecute this case. Plaintiff must keep the court
10 informed of any change of address and must comply with the court's orders in a timely fashion.
11 Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this action for failure to prosecute pursuant to
12 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

13 IT IS SO ORDERED.

14 Dated: November 21, 2016.



WILLIAM ALSUP
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

NOTICE -- WARNING (SUMMARY JUDGMENT)

If defendants move for summary judgment, they are seeking to have your case dismissed. A motion for summary judgment under Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure will, if granted, end your case.

5 Rule 56 tells you what you must do in order to oppose a motion for summary judgment.
6 Generally, summary judgment must be granted when there is no genuine issue of material
7 fact--that is, if there is no real dispute about any fact that would affect the result of your case,
8 the party who asked for summary judgment is entitled to judgment as a matter of law, which
9 will end your case. When a party you are suing makes a motion for summary judgment that is
10 properly supported by declarations (or other sworn testimony), you cannot simply rely on what
11 your complaint says. Instead, you must set out specific facts in declarations, depositions,
12 answers to interrogatories, or authenticated documents, as provided in [current Rule 56(c)], that
13 contradict the facts shown in the defendant's declarations and documents and show that there is
14 a genuine issue of material fact for trial. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition,
15 summary judgment, if appropriate, may be entered against you. If summary judgment is
16 granted, your case will be dismissed and there will be no trial.